2008-02644/

Forest Practices Board

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 9905, Stn Prov Gov't
Victoria, British Columbia
Canada V8W 9R1

Location:
3rd Floor, 1675 Douglas St., Victoria
http://www.fpb.gov.bc.ca

NEWS release

January 29, 2008

Five woodlots in southern Interior get clean audits

VICTORIA – Planning and field activities undertaken in five woodlots in the Arrow Boundary Forest District in southern British Columbia were found to be compliant during an audit of their operations.

The audits of woodlot licences W0408, W0475, W0479, W1470 and W1832 were conducted in June 2007. The audits assessed for compliance with the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act, the Forest and Range Practices Act, Wildfire Act, Woodlot Licence Forest Management Regulation,* and *Woodlot Licence Planning and Practices Regulation.*

"We're pleased to note that the woodlot licensees in this randomly selected group have been demonstrating compliance with legislative requirements," said board chair Bruce Fraser.

The audit examined each woodlot licence's planning, field activities and obligations in the areas of:

- operational planning (including forest development plans, site plans and woodlot licence plans);
- timber harvesting;
- road construction, maintenance and deactivation;
- silviculture activities and obligations; and
- fire protection at active work sites.

The only concern identified was three small sites in one woodlot where restocking practices needed improvement.

The Forest Practices Board is an independent public watchdog that reports to the public about compliance with the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) and the achievement of its intent. The board's main roles under FRPA are:

- Auditing forest practices of government and licence holders on public lands.
- Auditing government enforcement of FRPA.
- Investigating public complaints.

- Undertaking special investigations of forestry issues.
- Participating in administrative appeals.
- Providing reports on board activities, findings and recommendations.

-30-

This news release and more information about the board are available on the Forest Practices Board website at www.fpb.gov.bc.ca or by contacting:

Helen Davies
Communications
Forest Practices Board
Phone: 250 356-1586 / 1 800 994-5899